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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

Fan JIAO

Serial No.: 09/435,015

Filed: November 5, 1999

For: DIRECTORY-ENABLED NETWORK
ELEMENTS

Mail Stop NON-FEE Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Confirmation No.: 4659

Group Art Unit No.: 2131

Examiner: Ahmedur R. ALI

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2004

Technology Center 2100

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 2, 2004, for which the shortened statutory time for reply extends to April 2, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in light of the remarks herein.

The applicant thanks the Examiner for a thorough search and for withdrawing the objection to the abstract and the prior rejections over art.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

A Declaration of Prior Invention is attached following page 4 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop NON-FEE Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on March 26, 2004

by